Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 /016 W

-----079078 221728Z/53

P 221456Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2680 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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FOR EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ASIG, NL

SUBJECT: POST REPORTING

REF: STATE 109869

- 1. WE EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO PLAN OUR REPORTING AROUND POST'S APPROVED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, TOGETHER WITH SPOT REPORTS ON ITEMS OF IMMEDIATE AND SHORT-TERM INTEREST. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, GIVEN SIZE OF STAFF, WE HOPE TO INCREASE ANALYTICAL CONTENT OF OUR REPORTING. WE ASSUME EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REQUESTS FROM WASHINGTON FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION, AS WELL AS INSTRUCTIONS ON PARTICULAR ISSUES ON WHICH EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE APPROPRIATE FEEDBACK.
- 2. FOR CONVENIENCE WE HAVE BROKEN DOWN OVERALL REPORTING INTO TWO CATEGORIES: POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC/COMMERICAL.
- 3. POLITICAL. WE HAVE SOUGHT ONLY TO IDENTIFY MAIN REPORTING THEMES AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE GOVERNMENT - ITS POLICIES, COHESION AND DURABILITY, THE STYLE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER KEY MINISTERS, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABILITY OF THE CENTER-RIGHT COALITION TO CREATE A POLITICAL CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ITS CONTINUATION OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS AND POSSIBLY BEYOND, AND THE ROLE OF THE OPPOSITION.

B. GON DEFENSE POLICIES - MEASURE OF DUTCH SUPPORT FOR NATO STRATEGY AND PLANS, DUTCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE DEFENSE EFFORT, INCLUDING SIZE AND NATURE, AND WEAPONS ACQUISITION PROGGRAMS.

C. DUTCH APPROACH TO EAST-WEST ISSUES - IN PARTICULAR, THE OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF THE EAST-WEST RELATIONSHIP AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PERCEPTION TO THE DUTCH DEFENSE EFFORT. D. NON-PROLIFERATION - THE ALMELO ISSUE AND CONTINUED DUTCH ROLE IN THE TRIPARTITE CONSORTIUM, INFCE AND THE SUPPLIERS GROUP. E. THE SOUTH MOLUCCAN ISSUE.

F. OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC DUTCH ATTITUDES ABOUT EUROPE - THE EVOLVING RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE EC, THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, DIRECT ELECTIONS, THE ADMISSION OF NEW COUNTRIES INTO THE COMMUNITY AND INTO NATO.

G. DUTCH OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND US POLICIES.

4. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL. FIRST PRIORITY WILL REMAIN TO MEET RE-QUIRED REPORTING ON CERP, CCP, COMMERCIAL DOCUMENTATION (WTDR'S ETC.), CCMS, NARCOTICS, COCOM, AND IGGI.

OTHER REPORTING, WITH APPROPRIATE ANALYSIS, WILL INCLUDE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS ON MACROECONOMIC PROJECTIONS AND PLANS, BUDGET PLANS, SOCIO-ECONOMIC LEGISLATION (VAD, INVESTMENT ACCOUNT, WORKS COUNCILS), AND GON ACTIONS AND POLICIES AFFECTING GATT, MTN, EC, OECD, IEA, IBRD, IMF, PEACEFUL NUCLEAR ISSUES, AND U.S. COMMERCIAL AND INVESTMENT INTERESTS. SUBJECT TO RESOURCES AVAILABLE ANALYSIS OF SEVERAL RELATED MATTERS MIGHT BE ATTEMPTED. FOR EXAMPLE, HOW SIGNIFICANT IS THE SPEECH GIVEN AT OXFORD IN EARLY MAY BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL URGING THE NETHERLANDS TO ACCEPT AND ADJUST TO A LOWER RATE OF ECONOMIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROWTH? WHAT DO THE INCREASING BURDEN OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURES AND EFFORTS TO REDUCE THEM IMPLY ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY; THAT IS, HOW WILL THEY AFFECT SHORT-AND LONG-TERM INVESTMENT, THE PROSPECTS FOR U.S. EXPORTS, DUTCH WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO NATO AND THE LEVELS OF DUTCH DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE? WILL DUTCH EFFORTS TO COPE WITH WORSENING TERMS OF TRADE LEAD TO GREATER ACCEPTANCE OF MEASURES TO PROTECT INDUSTRY WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY?

5. AGRICULTURAL REPORTING WOULD CONTINUE ON SAME BASIS AS AT PRESENT, PEGGED TO EFFORTS TO INCREASE ALREADY LARGE (MORE THAN \$2 BILLION) US SALES IN THIS COUNTRY.

6. IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AMBASSADOR AND SINCE CURRENT POST MANAGEMENT (DCM, POLITICAL COUNSELOR) CAN BE CONSIDERED TO BE LAME DUCK CATEGORY, EMBASSY ASSUMES DEPT WILL UNDERSTAND IF NEW TEAM IN THE HAGUE PREFERS TO DRAW UP DIFFERENT REPORTING PLAN LATER THIS YEAR.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 may 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978THEHA02796
Document Source: ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780300-0572, D780215-0815 Format: TEL From: THE HAGUE **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780532/aaaabamf.tel

Line Count: 113 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c5a90799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY Reference: 78 STATE 109869

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 27 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2611726 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POST REPORTING

TAGS: ASIG, NL To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5a90799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014